



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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Ag Prices Received for December

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December full month crop prices were mostly higher when compared with November 2007. Montana's winter wheat price was \$6.25 per bushel, down \$0.47 from the previous month, spring wheat rose \$0.21 to \$7.29 per bushel, and durum wheat increased \$1.47 to \$10.60 per bushel, setting a new record high. Feed barley was down \$0.20 from November to \$4.73, but malt barley prices increased \$1.93 to \$5.15 per bushel, setting a new record high.

The mid-January price for alfalfa hay was \$1.00 above December at \$77.00 per ton, but all other hay dropped \$1.00 to \$70.00 per ton. Mid-January grain prices were mostly higher when compared with December 2007. Winter wheat was \$7.00 per bushel, spring wheat was \$8.40 per bushel, durum wheat was \$11.90 per bushel, feed barley was \$5.21 per bushel, and malt barley was \$4.13 per bushel.

Livestock prices for the full month of December were mixed when compared with November 2007. Steer and heifers decreased \$4.00 to \$108.00 per cwt, but cows were up \$0.70 to \$42.70 per cwt. The price for beef cattle was \$88.40, down \$2.60 per cwt and the price for calves dropped \$2.00 to \$121.00 per cwt. Sheep were up \$3.70 to \$22.80 per cwt and lambs were up \$2.00 to \$104.00 per cwt. The all milk price decreased \$0.30 per cwt from last month to \$21.90 per cwt. Mid-January prices for steers and heifers were \$100.00 per cwt, cows were \$45.20 per cwt, beef cattle were \$87.40 per cwt, calves were \$115.00 per cwt, and milk was \$21.20 per cwt.

U.S. prices for December and changes from November were as follows: winter wheat was \$7.66 per bushel, up \$0.34, spring wheat was \$7.46 per bushel, up \$0.44, durum wheat was \$11.60 per bushel, up \$0.50, all barley was \$4.51 per bushel, up \$0.17, oats were \$2.69 per bushel, down \$0.04, steers and heifers were \$95.10 per cwt, down \$0.80, cows were \$44.90 per cwt, up \$1.00, calves were \$118.00 per cwt, down \$1.00, sheep were \$29.70 per cwt, up \$2.10, lambs were \$98.50 per cwt, up \$1.20 and all milk was \$21.50 per cwt, down \$0.40 per cwt.

The U.S. mid-January winter wheat price was \$8.33 per bushel, spring wheat was \$8.38 per bushel, durum wheat was \$13.40 per bushel, malt barley was \$4.75 per bushel, and feed barley was \$5.23 per bushel, steers and heifers were \$95.20 per cwt, cows were \$46.20 per cwt, calves were \$116.00 per cwt, all milk was \$20.70 per cwt, all hogs were \$36.50 per cwt, and all eggs were \$1.29 per dozen.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January, at 150 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 6 points (4.2 percent) from December. The Crop Index is up 16 points (11 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased 4 points (2.9 percent). The All Farm Index and All Crop Index are at record highs. Producers received higher commodity prices for corn, soybeans, broilers, and wheat and lower prices were received for milk, tomatoes, hogs, and turkeys. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of corn, soybeans, cattle, and strawberries offset decreased marketings of grapes, milk, broilers, and cottonseed.

#end#

Commodity	U N I T	Monthly Average				Change from Previous		Mid-Month Avg	
		Montana			U.S.	Month	Year	Montana	U.S.
		Dec 2006	Nov 2007	Dec 2007	Dec 2007	Nov 2007	Dec 2006	15-Jan-08	15-Jan-08
		Dollars							
Winter Wheat	Bu	4.48	6.72	6.25	7.66	-0.47	1.77	7.00	8.33
Durum Wheat	Bu	4.87	9.13	10.60	11.60	1.47	5.73	11.90	13.40
Spring Wheat	Bu	4.56	7.08	7.29	7.46	0.21	2.73	8.40	8.38
All Wheat	Bu	4.54	7.05	6.94	7.74	-0.11	2.40	7.88	8.55
All Barley	Bu	3.04	3.73	5.01	4.51	1.28	1.97	4.50	4.92
Feed Barley	Bu	2.83	4.93	4.73	4.78	-0.20	1.90	5.21	5.23
Malt Barley	Bu	3.10	3.22	5.15	4.36	1.93	2.05	4.13	4.75
Oats	Bu	1.93	na	na	2.69	na	na	na	2.71
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	76.00	69.00	76.00	136.00	7.00	0.00	77.00	135.00
All Other Hay	Ton	74.00	69.00	71.00	126.00	2.00	-3.00	70.00	118.00
All Hay Baled	Ton	76.00	69.00	75.00	133.00	6.00	-1.00	76.00	129.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	102.00	112.00	108.00	95.10	-4.00	6.00	100.00	95.20
Cows	Cwt	39.80	42.00	42.70	44.90	0.70	2.90	45.20	46.20
Beef Cattle 1/ Calves	Cwt	88.30	91.00	88.40	88.90	-2.60	0.10	87.40	89.40
Sheep	Cwt	118.00	123.00	121.00	118.00	-2.00	3.00	115.00	116.00
Lambs	Cwt	31.00	19.10	22.80	29.70	3.70	-8.20	na	na
All Milk	Cwt	106.00	102.00	104.00	98.50	2.00	-2.00	na	na
	Cwt	13.90	22.20	21.90	21.50	-0.30	8.00	21.20	20.70
1/ Composite of steers, heifers, and cows.		na-not available.							